## CLEAN COAL STUDY GROUP Friday, February 10, 2006 Speaker Biographies

# Robert Finley, Director, Energy and Earth Resources Center, Illinois State Geological Survey

Robert J. Finley is the Director of the Energy and Earth Resources Center at the Illinois State Geological Survey, Champaign, Illinois. He joined the Illinois Survey in February 2000 after serving as Associate Director at the Bureau of Economic Geology, The University of Texas at Austin. Mr. Finley's area of specialization is fossil energy resources. His work has ranged from large-scale resource assessment, addressing hydrocarbon resources at a national and state scale, to evaluation of specific fields and reservoirs for coal, oil, and natural gas. He is currently heading a major project on carbon sequestration in the Illinois Basin aimed at addressing concerns with global climate change.

Mr. Finley has served on several committees for the National Petroleum Council, the American Association of Petroleum Geologists, and the U.S. Potential Gas Committee. He has taught aspects of energy resource development since 1986 to numerous clients domestically and overseas in Venezuela, Brazil, South Africa, and Australia, among other countries. Mr. Finley holds a Ph.D. in geology from the University of South Carolina.

### Tom Micheletti, Principal, Excelsior Energy

Tom Micheletti has over 30 years experience in the power industry, having served as either general counsel or senior executive for Minnesota Power, Southern California Edison, NRG Energy and, most recently, NSP-Minnesota. Mr. Micheletti has overseen the growth of several independent, non-utility business ventures and has headed the legislative, regulatory, and public affairs initiatives for two regulated utilities. Currently, Mr. Micheletti serves as a principal for Excelsior Energy, spearheading the development of the Mesaba Project in northern Minnesota.

Mr. Micheletti graduated from Harvard College with a degree in American Government and has a law degree from the University of Minnesota School of Law.

#### Massoud Rostam-Abadi, Principal Chemical Engineer, Illinois State Geological Survey

Massoud Rostam-Abadi is a Principal Chemical Engineer and the Head of the Energy and Environmental Engineering Section at the Illinois State Geological Survey. He is also an Adjust Professor of Environmental Engineering at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Mr. Rostam-Abadi's research has focused on the development and environmental applications of micro-engineered sorbents, such as carbon- and calcium-based sorbents and carbon nanotubes. He has been involved in developing mercury control technologies for coal-fired power plants since 1995 and has published extensively in this area. He holds six U.S. patents. Since 2003,

he has also been involved in assessing and evaluating carbon dioxide capture processes for coalfired power plant and developing optimized scenarios for integrated carbon sequestration in the Illinois Basin.

Mr. Rostam-Abadi received his Ph.D. in chemical engineering in 1980.

#### **Bob Stobbs, Executive Director, Canadian Clean Power Coalition**

Bob Stobbs has several years of experience in the electric industry related to the design of power plants, assessing new technologies and project management. Mr. Stobbs held the position of Project Leader at SaskPower with responsibilities for the clean coal initiatives of the Power Production Business Unit. He has been the chair of the Canadian Clean Power Coalition (CCPC) technical committee since 2001. Since January 2004, Mr. Stobbs has also served as the program's Executive Director.

The CCPC is a national association of coal and coal-fired electricity producers representing most of Canada's coal-fired electricity generation. The Coalition's objective is to demonstrate that coal-fired electricity generation can effectively address anticipated environmental issues, including CO<sub>2</sub>. The CCPC is committed to demonstrate a clean coal technology at a commercial scale by 2012.

Mr. Stobbs graduated from the University of Saskatchewan with a chemical engineering degree.